

**CAN YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE?
STUDENT DIVISION SURVEY
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Recent violent actions by young people in the United States seem to have raised questions about whether or not students are concerned with making a positive difference in the world. Is the current hopelessness of the students expressed through violence shared by most students or only a few? Are there students who believe they can make a positive difference?

To help discover the answers to these questions, a survey titled "Can You Make A Difference?" sponsored by the SGI-USA Student Division is being circulated throughout the nation since the beginning of June 1999. All students studying beyond high school have the opportunity participate in the survey.

The purpose of the survey is to evaluate how students feel about their ability to make a positive difference in the world and the factors that have influenced these feelings. Participants rank statements on a scale from "strongly agree" to "strongly disagree." Examples of the statements are: "In the future, the world will be a better place because of my efforts" and "My education has increased my ability to help others."

The idea of conducting this survey originated when the Student Division Conference planned for the Florida Nature and Culture Center this summer was cancelled. In discussion with the student division region leaders, it was apparent that many students were excited by the idea of having a project that they could work on together. We hope that this survey, which will be circulated to members and non-members, will not only be a vehicle to collect a clear picture of the current views of students, but will also be a way for SGI-USA students to introduce their non-member peers to the SGI-USA. Results of the survey will be published in *Seize the Day*.

For more information on how to participate in this survey, please contact your local student division leaders or e-mail the national leaders at studentdiv@sgi-usa.org.